Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 132180 ORIGIN PM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ACDA-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 MCE-00 L-03 SS-15 /057 R

DRAFTED BY PM/SAS:DRKEENE:RF
APPROVED BY PM - RAERICSON
NEA/ARN - MR. TUNIS
ACDA/WEC - LTC. BODRON
DOD/DSAA - CDR. LAMOUREUX

------105228 250032Z /62 R 241907Z MAY 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN INFO SECDEF WASHDC 0391

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 132180

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: MASS, JO, US

SUBJECT: MILITARY EQUIPMENT REQUESTS FOR JORDAN

REF: A) AMMAN 3716 B) AMMAN 573 C) AMMAN 3901

1. P&B DATA: DOD HAS MADE EVERY EFFORT TO PROVIDE DATA ON APPROVED EQUIPMENT IN A TIMELY FASHION. THOSE EFFORTS WILL CONTINUE. PROCESSING TIME IN MANY INSTANCES INVOLVES POLICY REVIEW TO DETERMINE WHETHER IT IS POSSIBLE TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO P AND B REQUEST. OTHER FACTORS REQUIRING ADDITIONAL TIME ARE, IN VARIOUS CASES, NEED FOR: EMBASSY'S ESTIMATE OF QUANTITIES OF ITEMS REQUIRED, EMBASSY'S JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST (E.G., TANKS), AND MORE SPECIFIC IDENTIFICATION OF EQUIPMENT REQUESTED (E.G., THEODOLITES, MUST HOSPITAL).

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 132180

2. EXPEDITED DELIVERY: AS YOU RIGHTLY NOTE, EXPEDITED DELIVERY IS VERY DIFFICULT AREA. ADDITIONALLY, SOME EQUIPMENT IS CONFIGURED TO SPECIFIC NEEDS OF A RECIPIENT COUNTRY, AND CANNOT BE DIVERTED. AS YOU KNOW, EARLY DELIVERY OF M109A1B HOWITZERS TO JORDAN MEANT DELAYS IN DELIVERY FOR OTHER COUNTRIES. BENEFITS TO USG IN RELATIONS WITH ONE COUNTRY MAY BE OFFSET BY DISADVANTAGEOUS

REACTIONS FROM ANOTHER. WHILE UNDER EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUM-

STANCES SUCH DIVERSIONS OF EQUIPMENT FROM ONE COUNTRY TO ANOTHER MAY BE NECESSARY FOR POLITICAL OR OTHER REASONS, WE BELIEVE THAT EXPEDITED DELIVERY IS GENERALLY A ZERO SUM GAME. WHEN GOJ SIGNS LOA IT REALIZES WHEN DELIVERY OF ITEM IS SCHEDULED AND SHOULD NOT NORMALLY EXPECT DELIVERY SOONER. ANYTHING YOU CAN DO TO DAMPEN INTEREST IN EXPEDITED DELIVERY WOULD BE MUCH APPRECIATED.

- 3. ADDITIONAL DELIVERY OF 8 INCH HOWITZERS TO JAF CANNOT BE ACCELERATED WITHOUT IMPACTING U.S. ARMY OR OTHER FMS RECIPIENTS. JORDAN IS SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE RECEIVING HOWITZERS SOON: EIGHT 8 INCH HOWITZERS (MAP) WILL BE SHIPPED TO JORDAN THIRD QUARTER CY 78; 5 (FMS CASE UJA) WILL BE PRODUCED THIRD QUARTER CY 79; 9 ADDITIONAL HOWITZERS (FMS CASE USA) FOURTH QUARTER CY 79; 5 MORE (FMS UTJ) IN FIRST QUARTER CY 81; AND 11 IN SECOND QUARTER CY 81. THUS, JORDAN IS RECEIVING THE NEXT EIGHT 8 INCH HOWITZERS PRODUCED AND WILL RECEIVE 38 OF 47 BEING PRODUCED FOR FOREIGN CUSTOMERS THROUGH SECOND QUARTER CY 81.
- 4. WE DO NOT BELIEVE ACCELERATION OF 155 SP HOWITZERS WOULD GAIN US ANY ADVANTAGE. TWO ADDITIONAL 155 HOWITZERS (MAP) ARE BEING DELIVERED NOW. DELIVERY OF REMAINING 155 HOWITZERS ORDERED UNDER CASE URX (30 HOWITZERS OF WHICH 6 CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 132180

WERE EXPEDITED) IS AS FOLLOWS: 24 IN 2ND AND 3RD QUARTER CY 78. JORDAN WILL ALSO RECEIVE AN ADDITIONAL 155 HOWITZERS (MAP) IN 3RD QUARTER CY 78. DELIVERY SCHEDULE OF 155S ORDERED UNDER CASE USK (36 HOWITZERS) IS: 18 IN 4TH QUARTER FY 78, 12 IN 1ST QUARTER 79, 3 IN 2ND QUARTER 79, AND 3 IN 3RD QUARTER 79. JORDAN WILL RECEIVE SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF HOWITZERS OVER THE NEAR TERM, SOME OF WHICH HAVE ALREADY ARRIVED AND DELIVERY WILL CONTINUE THROUGH 3RD QUARTER 79.

5. REDEYE/STINGER: AS YOU KNOW, REDEYE IS NOT IN PRODUCTION AND IT WOULD BE COST PROHIBITIVE TO REOPEN THE PRODUCTION LINE. NO REDEYES ARE AVAILABLE FROM ALREADY DEPLETED U.S. ASSETS. THEY WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE WHEN REDEYE IS REPLACED BY FOLLOW-ON SYSTEM IN U.S. INVENTORY, AS REMAINING SHELF LIFE OF REDEYE AT THAT TIME WILL NOT PERMIT USING THEM FOR FMS. STINGER WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL FY 80. (RE REF C) IT IS UNLIKELY THAT STINGER WILL BE RELEASED OUTSIDE NATO. USG POLICY IS TO CONTROL CLOSELY SALE OF MANPAD SYSTEMS.FYI: IDENTICAL MESSAGE SENT EARLY APRIL IN RESPONSE TO SAUDI REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL REDEYE. END FYI. ISRAEL HAS BEEN DENIED STINGER.

- 6. AH-1S: THIS ISSUE WILL BE ADDRESSED SEPTEL.
- 7. ADDITIONAL EXPLANATION:
- A. STINGER/REDEYE: SEE PARA 5 ABOVE.
- B. IMPROVED TWO VEHICLE, HELLFIRE MISSILE, AN/TPQ-37, BATTERY COMPUTER SYSTEM: IN R AND D, NOT YET OPERATIONALLY DEPLOYED WITH U.S. FORCES AND THUS COMMITMENT FOR SALE TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENT PROHIBITED BY PRESIDENT'S CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFER POLICY; NOT AVAILABLE FOR FMS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 132180

C. F-16: RELEASE OF DATA ON ADVANCED AIRCRAFT TO ANY COUNTRY REQUIRES HIGH LEVEL POLICY DECISION. WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO SEEK SUCH A DECISION FOR JORDAN AT THIS TIME, GIVEN THE CURRENT STATUS OF JORDAN'S F-5 FLEET AND PROJECTED DELIVERY OF 22 F-5E/FS, APPROVED UNDER MAP. IN VIEW OF JORDAN'S FUNDING PROBLEMS WE DID NOT THINK IT REALISTIC THAT JORDAN WOULD SEEK TO ACQUIRE F-16 IN NEAR TERM. WITH THE LACK OF FORMAL REQUEST FOR INFORMATION, NEED FOR WHICH REQUEST WAS PRESENTED (INTERNAL MISSION PLANNING ONLY - REF B) AND LIKELY FUNDING PROBLEM, WE HAVE NOT SOUGHT POLICY DECISION ON RELEASE OF THIS DATA. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: MILITARY EQUIPMENT, MILITARY SALES

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 24 may 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE132180
Document Source: CORD

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: DRKEENE:RF Enclosure: GS DG ALTERED **Executive Order: GS**

Errors: N/A **Expiration:**

Film Number: D780220-0043

Format: TEL From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780523/aaaaasyw.tel

Line Count: 147 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 11124597-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN PM

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 AMMAN 3716, 78 AMMAN 573, 78 AMMAN 3901

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 01 aug 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2583883 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: MILITARY EQUIPMENT REQUESTS FOR JORDAN

TAGS: MASS, JO, US

To: AMMAN Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/11124597-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014